AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On pages 14 and 15, amend paragraph [0020], as follows:

[0020]   The expander 410 includes storage to store routing tables 217a, 217b, 217c, and so forth, for respective phys 215a, 215b, 215c, and so forth. A routing table 217a for a phy 215a includes expander route entries 230a, 230b, ..., 230n, each of which may include an enable/disable bit 220 and a SAS address 225. A SAS address is a unique identifier assigned to an initiator, expander, or storage device. The routing table for each phy may include up to ~~12route~~ 12 route entries, according to one example implementation. A routing controller 240 in the expander 410 is able to access each routing table 217 to allocate and remap the route entries in each of the routing tables as desired.

On page 6, amend paragraph [0026], as follows:

[0026]   As mentioned previously, the routing table entries of a phy having the ~~routing~~ table routing attribute are initially populated during computer system power-on by software executing on the computer system in cooperation with RTEM logic in each routing controller. Alternatively, the expander may self-configure under control of the RTEM logic. In one example, the routing table for expander 410 phy 215a is shown below.

On page 8, amend paragraph [0029], as follows:

[0029]   ICLs 535a and 535b allow initiator 515 and initiator 520 to communicate and exchange information without having to transmit requests over an external network, such as a computer bus, a local area network, and so forth. Also, initiator phys (located in initiators 515 and 520) do not have to be dedicated to such inter-initiator communications. In one example, the initiators 515 and 520 are SAS controllers that include caches. The initiators of the SAS expander domains are in communication to maintain cache coherency between caches associated with the initiators 515 and 520.   The ICLs may also carry requests for information stored in the storage devices from one SAS expander domain to another SAS expander domain. Connecting the ICLs to expanders 525 and 530 rather than the initiators ~~domain up~~ enable phys in the initiators 515 and 520 to connect to additional expanders for supporting more storage devices.

2